GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4098
ANSWERED ON:10.04.2003
HYDEL GENERATION POTENTIAL TAPPED
MONI KUMAR SUBBA;VINAY KUMAR SORAKE

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of hydel generation potential in the country has been tapped so far;

(b) whether in view of the immense hydro-electric potential of the North East, the Government have taken steps to invite private sector investment including FDI for augmenting hydro power generation and distribution in the region;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government are likely to consider increasing budgetary support to Hydel projects in coming years; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA)

(a) : About 17% of the hydro potential in the country has been tapped so far and about 6% of the hydro potential is under development.

(b) & (c) : In view of the growing demand for power in the country and the need for more investment in this sector, the Government of India, as part of further liberalization of the Foreign Direct Investment regime, has on June 12, 2000, decided to remove theupper limit for foreign direct investment in respect of projects relating to electric generation, transmission and distribution (other than atomic reactor plants).

(d) & (e) : Budgetary support for hydro projects has already been increased from Rs.2402.48 crores in 2002-03 to Rs.2814.84 crores in 2003-04.